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**NEWS RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**  
December 4, 2008

For More Information:  
Elaine Watkins-Miller, 515-281-5651  
elaine.watkins-miller@iowa.gov

## **Governor and National Experts to Discuss Education in Iowa**

### **Summit to feature Iowa educators leading high school redesign efforts**

**DES MOINES, Iowa** – Governor Chet Culver along with national and state education experts will join teachers and principals from across Iowa on December 8 and 9 for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual High School Summit in Des Moines. The summit will be held at the Iowa Events Center – Hy-Vee Hall and will focus on Iowa's current efforts to redesign high schools to ensure delivery of a world-class education to all students in the state.

Governor Chet Culver will discuss his administration's work to improve education in Iowa and Iowa Department of Education Director Judy Jeffrey will discuss what it will take for Iowa schools to prepare students for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Featured speakers also include Margaret Heritage of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Heritage is a national expert on formative assessments, which help determine how student learning is progressing even as instruction takes place. In addition, Tom Lickona, Ph.D., Professor of Education, State University of New York at Cortland, will present "Preparing to Flourish: The Smart & Good Schools Approach to Helping Students Lead Productive, Ethical, and Fulfilling Lives in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century."

The summit will also feature several breakout sessions spotlighting Iowa middle and high school educators involved in high school reinvention. These practitioners have implemented effective research-based practices and they will share their successful strategies with other Iowa teachers and principals. In addition, sessions will be provided on the implementation of the Iowa Core Curriculum.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual High School Summit is sponsored by the School Administrators of Iowa (SAI) and the Iowa Department of Education. SAI is a statewide organization founded in 1987 that represents more than 2,000 Iowa educational administrators. The role of SAI is to support,

Grimes State Office Building - Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0146  
PHONE (515) 281-5294 FAX (515) 242-5988  
[www.state.ia.us/educate](http://www.state.ia.us/educate)

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encourage and develop Iowa's educational leaders and learners. The Iowa Department of Education works with the State Board of Education to provide oversight, supervision and support for the state education system, which includes state funded preschool programs, public elementary and secondary schools, nonpublic schools that receive state accreditation, area education agencies, community colleges and teacher preparation programs. The department is committed to high levels of learning, achievement and performance for all students, so they will become successful members of their community and the workforce.

For more information on the summit, please visit <http://www.sai-iowa.org>.

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